

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-12 were pending in this application. Claims 2, 6, 8 have been cancelled, claims 1, 3, 7 and 9 have been amended and new claims 15-23 have been added hereby. Support for the amendment can be found throughout the specification and drawings. For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the claims were rejected over Peterson (U.S. 5,926,217) alone, or in combination with other references. These grounds of rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the amendments made to the claims.

Figure 3 of Peterson (US Patent Number 5,926,217) discloses a clamp circuit 131 including a switch 135 (implemented by a transistor M9 as shown in Figure 4) that is not connected to the same node with a resistor 119 and a capacitor 121. Specifically, another capacitor 133 is required to block therebetween. The capacitor 133 functions as a DC-blocking capacitor for the filtered signal provided by a filter 117. The clamp circuit 135 is used to adjust the DC level of the filtered signal that passes through the capacitor 133. See col. 4, line 67 to col. 5, line 21 of Peterson.

In contrast, Claim 1 of the present application, as amended, recites a variable resistor, a capacitor and a switching device (implemented by a transistor), all of which are coupled to an internal node. The capacitor Cb (e.g., Fig. 2) blocks the DC component of the analog image

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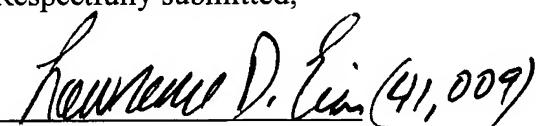
signal such that the clamp circuit 22 is connected to the internal node 28 directly without another DC-blocking capacitor.

Claims 7 and 19 also recite a variable resistor, a capacitor and a switching device all connected to the same node.

It is respectfully submitted that Peterson nor any of the other cited prior art discloses or suggests this specific configuration of components. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the pending §102 and §103 rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn. In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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